

THANKS



THE COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT AND COLUMBUS SCHOOL DISTRICT RECOGNIZED OUR CROSSING GUARDS ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24TH AT THE MIDDLE SCHOOL. THE CROSSING GUARDS FOR COLUMBUS ARE: CHRISTY, GLORIA, MARGARET, CHERYL, PHYLLIS, JOY, SUZANNE, JERRY, JUDY, AND LUCAS. THANKS FOR KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE.

Columbus Elementary School - Room 19
Developmental Screening by appointment for children ages 2-5 who are not yet in kindergarten. Call Cori Denk or Karin Westlake 623-5950 to schedule a time.



Launch Priority #2 – Expand STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Agriscience/Arts and Mathematics Opportunities for all students.

By Becky Schmidt, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

As part of the follow-up steps to October 2016's *Launching a New Legacy*, two groups have been created that will focus directly on STEAM in Columbus School District: a K-12 committee of educators with representation from every school and multiple subject areas and a STEAM Advisory Council whose members were invited to participate by the district and represent multiple local businesses. These two groups serve very different but important purposes.

The K-12 committee is a representative sample of the teachers who are in the classroom. They also are directly responsible for working through the Curriculum Renewal and Design process with administration to identify needs and shape direction of course offerings and curriculum.

Over the summer, this group determined before any work discussed as STEAM could go forward, the district needed to establish what STEAM meant in Columbus School District. After considering national resource definitions and our own community needs, the following is the Columbus STEAM definition and indicators for success:

Definition of STEAM

STEAM is an educational approach to learning that utilizes and integrates collaboration across Science, Technology, Engineering, Agriscience/Arts and Mathematics as access points for guiding student inquiry, dialogue, critical thinking, and creative problem solving.

Evidence of Successful STEAM Implementation for Staff

Staff will...

- make intentional connection between standards, assessments and lesson design/implementation
- develop experiences involving standards from two or more content areas in Science, Technology, Engineering, Math and the Arts to be taught AND assess these standards in and through each other
- emphasize inquiry, collaboration, and problem-based learning
- utilize and leverage the integrity of all the content areas to create an authentic STEAM initiative

Evidence of Successful STEAM Implementation for Students

Students will...

- take thoughtful risks
- engage in authentic learning
- persist in problem solving
- embrace collaboration
- work through a creative process toward an independent demonstration of knowledge

The STEAM Advisory Council is composed of community business members who have insight into the needs of the workplace. The Advisory Council's role is to provide feedback which is taken into consideration when the district makes decisions about course offerings and curricular improvements. The first meeting of this group was held on January 24 at Columbus High School. Because the STEAM advisory council members are not from the school district, this meeting established baselines of current opportunities at CHS, including examining course offerings from the course catalog and touring the science, art, agriscience, and technology education departments. Since the initial meeting focused on the present, future meetings will focus on goal setting to improve curriculum, and steps needed to achieve those goals. If any local businesses would like to be involved with the STEAM Advisory Council and/or partner with the school district, please contact Becky Schmidt, Director of Curriculum and Instruction at bschmidt@columbus.k12.wi.us.

Parents will also be asked to contribute feedback. To help guide our work on *Launch*, in the coming weeks, the district will be sending out a survey to solicit feedback on all six *Launching a New Legacy* priorities. Please stay tuned!

Wisconsin State Assessment Schedule

State Assessments are approaching quickly. Principals will be sending parents information that is more specific as time gets closer. State assessments help the district reflect on the effectiveness of our programs. The district asks that parents avoid pulling their children out of school for appointments, vacation, etc. on their child's assessment dates.

This is Columbus School District's tentative calendar for the 2018 Wisconsin State Assessments.

Columbus Elementary School

Grade 3- Forward Exam

- Tuesday, April 10
- Thursday, April 12
- Tuesday, April 24

Columbus High School

Grades 9 & 10- ACT Aspire

- Monday, April 9
- Wednesday, April 11

Grade 10 - Forward Exam

- Tuesday, April 24

Grade 11- ACT

- Tuesday, February 27

Grade 11- WorkKeys

- Wednesday, February 28

Columbus Middle School

Grades 4 & 5 -Forward Exam

- Monday, March 19 (Grade 4 only)
- Wednesday, March 21 (Grade 4 only)
- Monday, April 16
- Thursday, April 19
- Monday, April 23
- Thursday, April 26
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Grades 6-8-Forward Exam

- Monday, March 19 (Grade 8 only)
- Wednesday, March 21 (Grade 8 only)
- Tuesday, April 17
- Friday, April 20
- Friday, April 27

District-wide

Grade 3-11 Dynamic Learning Maps (*alternative assessment that is only for students for whom the IEP process determines is it appropriate)

- Window is March 19-May 4 (specific dates will be scheduled individually by the case manager)

Students in Mr. Schroeder's construction class are creating floor plan models at the high school.



WHAT ARE THE LAUNCHING A NEW LEGACY PRIORITIES FOR COLUMBUS?

<p>PRIORITY 1 Create a community campus by building needed facilities and amenities.</p>	<p>PRIORITY 2 Expand hands-on STEAM opportunities for all students.</p>	<p>PRIORITY 3 Address students' social needs (i.e. poverty, mental health) with community collaboration</p>
<p>PRIORITY 4 Offer a wide variety of course offerings and co-curricular activities to address student needs.</p>	<p>PRIORITY 5 Develop and expand community partnerships.</p>	<p>PRIORITY 6 Implement and sustain up-to-date technology within the schools.</p>

There are a total of six priorities. Each month, a different priority has been a focus area.



February, 2018

The Columbus School District Endowment proudly announces
the 1st **Cardinal Apple Awards** Program.

Lifetime Service to Education Award Winner:

Mr. Dick Mortimer



The celebration honoring Dick's years of service and dedication to the education will be on:

Saturday, March 10, 2018
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Columbus Country Club
Columbus, Wisconsin.

There will be hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar at the event. It is great afternoon to socialize with friends and family and to honor Dick, and the role education plays in our community.

Dick Mortimer began his career in Columbus as a vocational agriculture teacher in 1948. He taught ag for 11 years and was then appointed high school principal in 1958. Dick served as high school principal for 18 years. Dick completed his Specialist Degree in Educational Administration at UW-Madison in 1972. Beginning with the 1976-1977 school year, Dick Mortimer became the District Administrator/Superintendent of Schools. That role continued until his retirement from the District on June 30, 1986. Dick completed 39 years in the Columbus School District and resides in Columbus still today.

Please join us in sponsorship of this event in honoring Dick's service to education and the Columbus School District Education Endowment. Your sponsorship of \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, or any contribution will help show your appreciation for Dick and the enrichment of learning by funding innovative and creative programs and experiences in our district. **Your sponsorship is your ticket to the event. Please RSVP by March 1, 2018** please contact the school district to submit your donation.

It takes a village to raise a child and a community to educate one. By being a sponsor for our March 10th event, you have an opportunity to help celebrate the lifetime service of one of our greatest educators and contribute to the innovation and excellence of the future of Columbus education. Please join us for what promises to be a special afternoon.

Columbus School District Endowment Board

Cori Denk, Annette Deuman, Janel DeZarn, Tess Henning, Peter Kaland, Liz O'Donnell, Laura Reetz, and Alice Schmidt

*The Columbus School District Endowment is a giving partner of the Madison Community Foundation (MCF), a tax-exempt 501 (c) (3) community trust. Tickets for the Cardinal Apple Awards Program event are valued at \$25.00 each. Federal law limits your charitable income tax deduction to the excess of your contribution over the value of goods and services received. Please consider this when determining the tax deductibility of your gift.

Upcoming Events

February, 2018

- 1 Board Retreat regarding Launch Priority #1 at 12:30 PM
- 5 Parent Conferences K-8 from 11 AM – 7 PM; **No School**
- 6 Board Retreat – policy review and GP monitoring reports at 1 PM
- 12 School Board Meeting at City Hall; 7 PM
- 13 PTO Sponsored Motivational Speaker for CES/CMS Students
- 14 Late Start; Classes begin at 10 AM
- 15 CES/DCS Science & Tech Night at 6 PM
- 19 In-Service; **No School**
- 21 Parent Conferences at High School, 5-8 PM
- 26 School Board Meeting at City Hall; 7 PM
- 27 ACT with Writing – Testing - Grade 11
- 28 Late Start; Classes begin at 10 AM
- 28 WorkKeys Testing – Grade 11



March, 2018

- 12 School Board Meeting at City Hall; 7 PM
- 14 Late Start; Classes begin at 10 AM
- 23 End of Third Quarter
- 23 Early Release; Classes dismiss at 12:30 PM
- 26 School Board Meeting at City Hall; 7 PM
- 26 – 30 No School; Spring Break



THANKS

A big thanks to the PTO for supporting guest speaker Matt Wilhelm. Matt is a professional BMX rider and motivational speaker and while performing tricks for the CES and CMS students, he will deliver a very important message of perseverance, anti-bullying, and respect. The students will see Matt in action on February 13th.



A big thanks to the **Columbus Water and Light** for sponsoring the assembly presentation *The Treasure Trove of Conservation Cove!* This assembly was done on January 26th for the CES students. It focused on energy conservation and gave students tips for saving energy at school and home.